

THE SOUTH AFRICAN LIBRARY FOR THE BLIND

(Founded - 1919)

The National Library of Embossed and Recorded
Literature for the Visually Handicapped

ANNUAL REPORT

1st April, 1979 — 31st March, 1980

(Also available in braille)

Bannerman House,
High Street,
Grahamstown.
6140

(W.O. 126)

P.O. Box 115,
Telephone 3724
Telegrams :
"BLINDLIB"

Grocott & Sherry, Printers — Grahamstown

THE SOUTH AFRICAN LIBRARY FOR THE BLIND

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The Hon. the Administrator, O.F.S.
The Hon. the Administrator, Transvaal
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INTRODUCTION

It is today regarded as axiomatic that visually handicapped citizens are as much entitled to library services as any other section of the community. In Grahamstown, in 1919, Miss Josie Wood started such a service from her own home with 100 braille volumes and between 20 and 30 readers. On the foundations of her devoted service to the blind for more than 40 years, the South African Library for the Blind grew into an institution that is now recognised as one of South Africa's three national libraries.

Its free service reaches readers of all population groups throughout the Republic by post or through their local public libraries, and libraries and individuals in neighbouring countries are assisted. As a national bibliographic centre, it acts as a clearing house for inter-library loans in respect of literature for the visually handicapped, often employing its contacts with overseas agencies for the blind to assist readers in search of essential study material.

The titles of the books on its shelves are among those to be found in any good public library collection, but the books themselves are either in embossed type for finger-reading or recorded on tape for listening. Because of these special media the library's expenses are far higher than those of equivalent libraries for the sighted.

The Department of National Education provides the South African Library for the Blind with a grant to cover basic administrative expenses, but the library relies heavily on the generous contributions of individual friends, on legacies, on donations from local authorities and organisations, and on the efforts of voluntary service organisations, to maintain an adequate rate of expansion of the book stock and other services.

OUR FRIENDS WRITE:

"Without the help of the people there at the Library, we students would be lost." (Pretoria)

"... I wish to extend a hand of gratitude and appreciation to you. Without your aid I certainly would not have made my achievement. ... I wish you all the luck in the world." (Sovenga)

"Thank you for motivating me again - I do appreciate it." (Empangeni)

"I so very much appreciate the loan of these items and the friendliness and helpfulness of the staff, as this all helped to lighten and enliven the days until my cataract operations were over." (Grahamstown)

"I am proud of our Library, especially the prompt service and the wide selection of books." (Pretoria)

"When the Library for the Blind was mentioned to us and the local Librarian was kind enough to let her have a player together with a taped book, my mother took on a new lease of life overnight." (Pietersburg)

"Your service brought happiness and help to someone who was shattered." (East London)

"When I see the joy which your books bring my husband, I realise how important your Library is for countless others." (Stellenbosch)

"Although 104 years old, I still derive the greatest pleasure from all the books you send me." (Plumstead)

IN MEMORIAM

MR E.B. CONWAY

Mr E.B. Conway was appointed a member of the Library Council by Miss Josie Wood herself in 1960 and remained a member when the Library became a state-aided institution in 1968. He was Vice-Chairman from 1962 until his death in March 1980.

He was very interested in the work and seldom missed a Council Meeting. He often visited the Library and was always ready to help with advice and with such routine work as Board of Survey reports.

Mr Conway was a successful business man and before coming to Grahamstown, was twice Mayor of Graaff-Reinet, where he was noted for keeping lions in his garden! The work of the Library has been enriched by his keen brain, his ability to look ahead and his deep concern for those who needed its services.

PROFESSOR J.J. GERBER.

Professor J.J. Gerber, known as Koos to all his friends and acquaintances, died in a hospital in Cape Town, after a short illness, in August 1979.

He had retired from Rhodes university at the end of 1976 after a long association with the University, first as a student in the faculty of education, then as a lecturer and finally as a professor and Warden of Founder's Hall. He was also chairman of the Council of Fort Hare University.

Having always shown a keen interest in the welfare and the education of the blind, Professor Gerber became closely associated with the Library when he was appointed to the Council in 1968 and on which he served until he died.

Koos Gerber had a colourful personality. He was big in stature. He was also big in attitude to life. It was a bigness that was manifest in a warm sympathetic tolerance of the other person's traditions and behaviour and language: a bigness that allowed him to differ without rancour or animosity.

He had a fierce loyalty to the institutions which he served and also to his friends, English and Afrikaans-speaking, Black and White. He was tremendously kind and many people from all walks of life had cause to be grateful for his practical assistance. He was a good friend to the Library and we mourn his death.

T.N.

DR WALTER COHEN

When Dr Walter Cohen died in February 1980, the Library lost not only a keen reader but a very good friend. He was internationally known as a member of the World Council for the Welfare of the Blind and Chairman of the World Braille Council. One of his chief contributions was the devising of braille systems in five languages for the Black blind of South Africa and the editing of two braille magazines "Sedibeng" and "Ilanga Lethu" for them.

He was a member of the Committee of enquiry which led to the Library being declared a state-aided institution. As Chairman of the S.A. National Council for the Blind, in 1962, he presented Miss Josie Wood with the first Robert Bowen medal for her work in establishing and expanding the Library. He also opened the van Schalkwijk Wing in 1964.

He had a brilliant brain, was a fluent speaker and his interests and activities were innumerable. He did not allow his disability to interfere with anything he wished to do and used to say that blindness should be regarded not as a tragedy, but merely as a nuisance. A great many people throughout South Africa are the poorer for his death.

ANNUAL REPORT

1st April, 1979 - 31st March, 1980

GENERAL

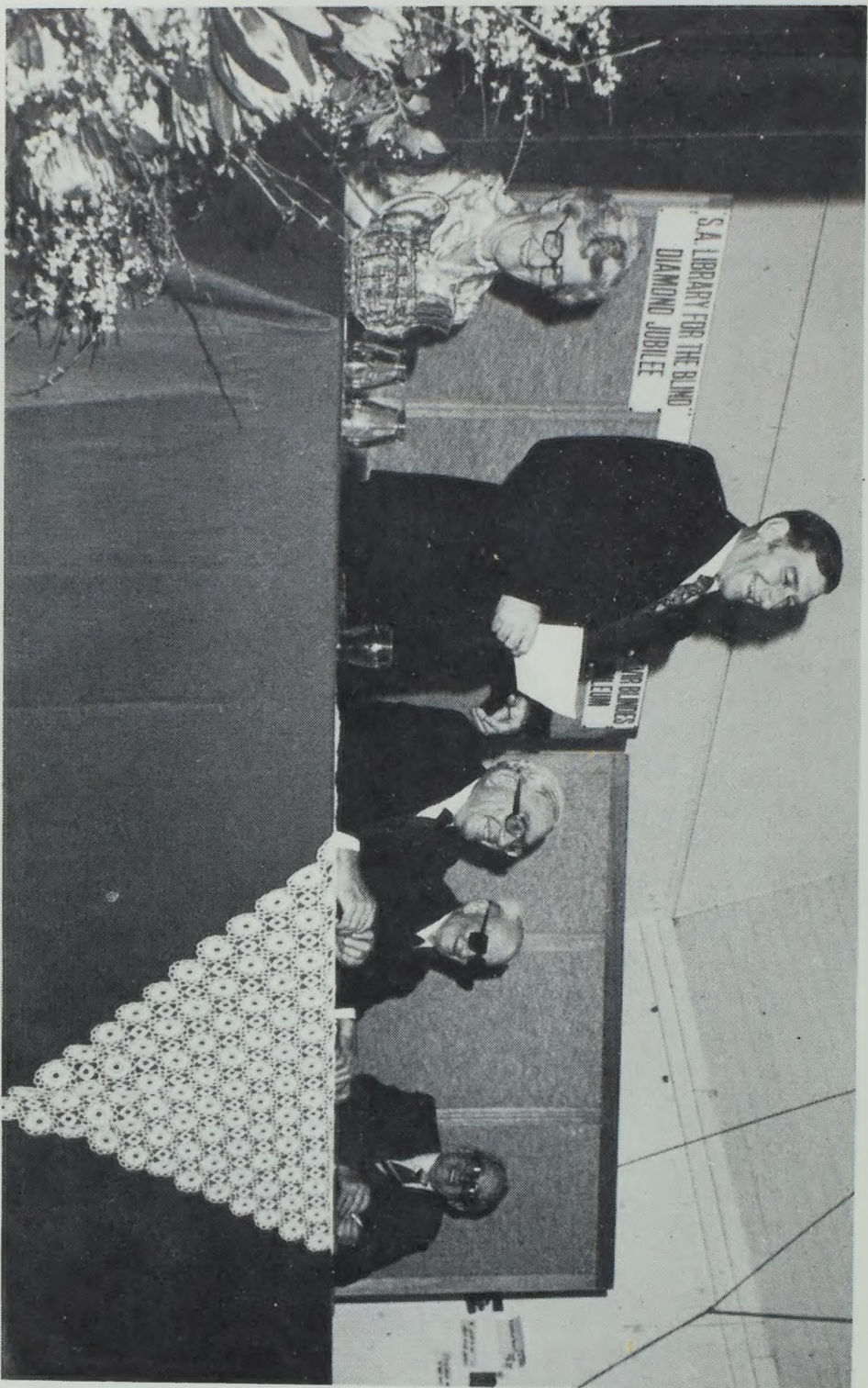
The Diamond Jubilee year was an eventful one, but not all the events were pleasant. We were greatly saddened by the death of Prof. J.J. Gerber, who served on the Council from 1968, and of Mr E.B. Conway, who was a Council member from 1960 and Vice-Chairman of Council from 1962. Dr F.G. van der Riet, who served on the Council from 1951, having decided that the time had come to retire, resigned. The Library has benefitted greatly from the staunch support and sterling services of these friends, and they will indeed be missed. At the time of writing, the Minister of National Education's decision on the re-constitution of the Council has not been finalised.

The Library's celebration of 60 years of service to the blind was well-supported. The Settlers Museum in Grahamstown mounted a very interesting and artistic display on the Library's work and history for a period overlapping the annual Festival of the Arts so that a large number of visitors to Grahamstown for this occasion could have the opportunity of seeing it. Forty Public Libraries in all the provinces mounted exhibitions to illustrate library services to the blind, using posters, books in Braille and Moon, players and cassettes supplied on loan by the Library. The librarians concerned reported considerable public interest especially as so many people have never had the opportunity actually to see Braille and Moon books and the tape reading system specially designed for easy usage by handicapped people. The exhibitions were imaginatively mounted as proved by photographs sent to the Library. We should like to single out, if we must, Uvongo and Welkom for "honourable mention" - unfortunately there is space only to publish a photograph of the latter.

The Diamond Jubilee meeting was held in St. George's Hall under chairmanship of the Hon. Mr Justice Kannemeyer, Chairman of the Library Council. The guest speaker was Dr the Hon. P.G.J. Koornhof, Minister of Coöperation and Development, previously Minister of National Education. Other guests of honour were Mr and Mrs G. Schermbrücker from Cape Town. Mr Schermbrücker is the Library's "Reader of longest Standing", having enrolled as a boy in 1919. After a brief report by the Director on the present state of the Library, Dr Koornhof delivered a well-researched address on Miss Wood's pioneering work in providing library services for the blind in South Africa. He proceeded to sketch the history of these services up to the present, contrasting the position with that of 60 years ago. He concluded with an appeal for public support for the many facets of this work. Mr Schermbrücker thanked the speaker, after which Miss Spurling, on behalf of the Library, presented Dr. Koornhof with a ceramic fruit bowl specially designed and made locally for the occasion by Mr Hamburger. Before the conclusion, Dr J.M. Hyslop, chairman of the Josie Wood Trust, spoke on behalf of all the members and friends of the Library to express appreciation to the Hon. Mr Justice Kannemeyer for his 30 years of service as a member of Council, 18 of them as Chairman. Afterwards, the Mayor and Mayoress of Grahamstown, Clr. and Mrs Currie entertained the guests of honour, members of Council and staff, the Trustees of the Josie Wood Trust Fund and friends of the Library, some of whom had travelled long distances to attend, at a civic cocktail party in the City Hall. All the proceedings were characterised by an atmosphere of warm friendliness which will long be remembered by those present.

After some years of negotiation, the purchase of the property adjoining the Library in High Street, formerly Mr Rodgers's shop, was completed on 1st October. Certain repairs and alterations have to be done before the building is suitable for the Library's

THE DIAMOND JUBILEE MEETING



(L to R) Miss E.M. Spurling (Librarian), Dr P.G.J. Koomhof (Minister of Co-operation and Development), Judge Kannemeyer (Chairman), Mr G. Schembrücker (Chairman of the Lighthouse Club), Mr P.J.A. de Villiers (Director).

use, and the P.W.D. have undertaken to do this as soon as funds become available for the purpose. As the shortage of space within the existing building is now critical, it can only be hoped that it will not be too long before occupation of the additional space is possible.

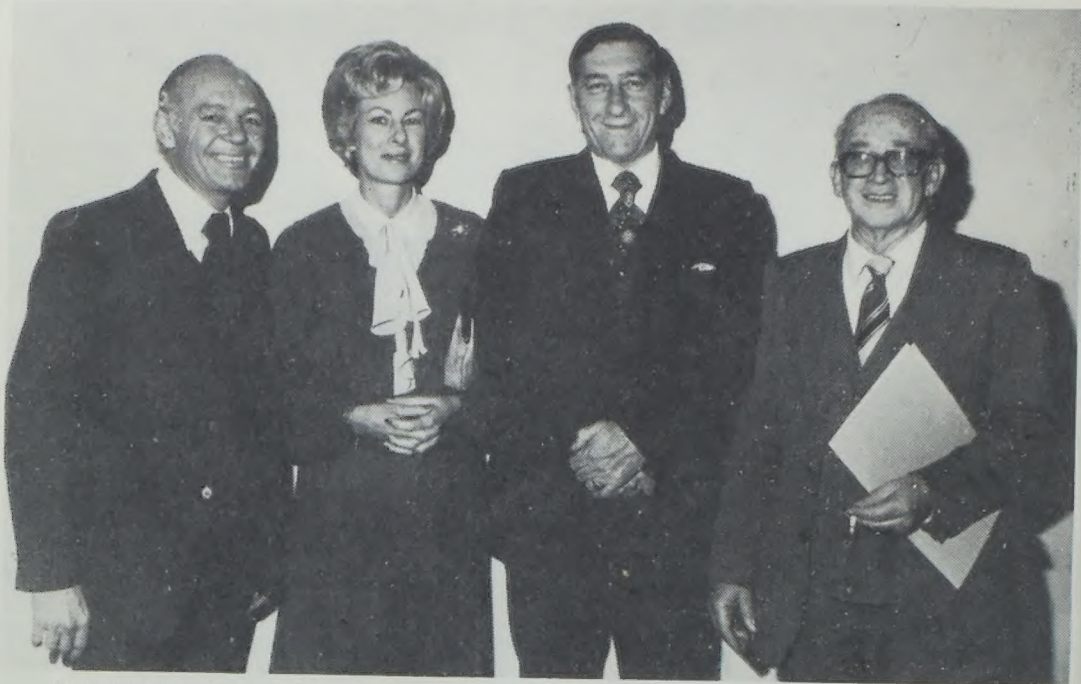
A glance at the detailed statistics given later, show that the Library is in good health. Two developments, about which more details are given under the relevant departments, deserve mention here. The first is the unusually large number of new titles acquired on Tape to bring the total number of Tape titles available to readers to more than 3 350, excluding the "Special" one-copy titles for students which now number nearly 200. The second is the significant increase in the number of students and specialised readers who have been helped from the Library's own stock or by inter-library loans.

As it was felt to be important that the Library maintain its international contacts with the World Council for the Welfare of the Blind and the International Federation of Library Institutions (IFLA), the trustees of the Josie Wood Fund sponsored the director's attendance at the Congress in Copenhagen. The Working Group of Libraries for the Blind of IFLA, established in Brussels in 1977, had now grown so much in size and activity that it was promoted to the status of a Round Table. Interesting and constructive papers were read and discussions took place on ways and means of eliminating barriers in the free international exchange of reading materials for the blind such as certain copyright regulations, postal restrictions, incomplete bibliographic records, irregular cataloguing methods and inadequate communication. The director read a paper prepared jointly by himself and Mr D. Shumaker of the Library of Congress on "Standards for the International Exchange of Bibliographic Information". A 5-year project for the publication of a "Biographical Dictionary of Blind People who have made significant contributions to the Arts and Sciences," was launched. A well-organised exhibition enabled those interested to view, handle and test the latest inventions in paperless braille readers, braille computer link-ups, speech calculators, etc. Unfortunately no Kurzweil print - to - speech reader was available. Visits were paid to Danish institutions for the Blind. While in London on the way back, the director had the opportunity of visiting the Royal National Institute for the Blind's new recording and computer-braille installations, the Students' Library and British Talking Book Services. He also had the privilege of meeting Mr Eric Boulter, Director-General of the R.N.I.B.

Rising costs are a continuing source of worry. The Department of National Education, by increasing its grant quite considerably, has absorbed the increased salary bill, but other items such as players, braille books, stationery of all kinds, electricity, etc. have increased alarmingly in price. It is more true than ever that the voluntary subscriptions and donations received from individuals, service organisations, local authorities and business firms are essential for the maintenance of the Library's services at a high level. Valuable contributions have come from street collections, boxes kept in various libraries and considerate people who have sent donations in lieu of wreaths for friends who have passed away.

Services such as those provided by this institution are not mere mechanical operations, but distinctly personal to individuals. Therefore, besides financial support, the interest, goodwill and coöperation of many people are needed. The courtesy and helpfulness of the officials of the Department of National Education and of the Postal Services are much appreciated. Much help in introducing new readers and dealing with problems locally is received from many Public Libraries, the S.A. National Council for the Blind and its many affiliated societies. St Dunstan's, the Chairman and Secretary of Cape Town's Lighthouse Club for the Blind, various Societies for the Blind and Mr and Mrs C. Porter of Pietermaritzburg. Rhodes University Library and the Grahamstown Public and Regional Libraries are all specially helpful to us. Grateful acknowledgements are made to Standard Bank, Barclay's Bank, Grocott's, the School for the Blind, Worcester,

AT THE DIAMOND JUBILEE MEETING



(L to R) Mr R.J. de V. Olckers, M.P., Mrs Olckers, Dr P.G.J. Koornhof, Mr P.J.A. de Villiers.



(L to R) Miss B. Bülbring, Mr G. Schermbrücker, Miss H. Smith, Mrs Schermbrücker

Braille Services, Tape Aids for the Blind, British Talking Book Services, the Royal National Institute for the Blind, The National Library Service for the Blind of the Library of Congress, Recording for the Blind Inc., National Braille Association, Milwaukee Public Library, Nederlandsche Blindenbibliotheek, Blindenbibliotheek Le Sage ten Broek and Perkins School for the Blind, Boston.

STAFF NEWS

Mrs L.P. Wilmot, well-known to our voluntary braille transcribers, since this service was one of her responsibilities, resigned in September to “emigrate” to Johannesburg. Miss Spurling stepped into the breach until Miss C. de Klerk assumed duty in December. Miss C. Boardman was married in July. She has, fortunately, continued in her post as Mrs v.d. Merwe. Mr Q.J. Otto joined the staff in January as a librarian in the Bibliographic Department.

TAPE DEPARTMENT

First, the bad news. For nearly ten years the prices of reading-machines and earphones have remained constant, largely because of the dropping value of the pound on the exchange market. The rise in the pound, coupled with new increases in prices and freight charges, has forced up the price of a reading-machine to R90 and a set of earphones to R7-50.

Next, some good news. British Talking Book Services embarked on a scheme of re-fur-bishing their cassette book-stock in collaboration with Clarke and Smith International. This entailed large-scale copying from original masters, and the Library was invited to participate to whatever extent it desired. This enabled the Library to replace worn tape books, many of which have been in circulation for 12 years, much more quickly and economically than could be done internally. The time thus saved could be devoted to copying new titles from the reels lent by Worcester School for the Blind and Tape Aids for the Blind. Furthermore, a large number of completely new titles became available to us for purchase. Since such an opportunity is not likely to recur in the near future, it was decided that the greatly increased expenditure for the year should be incurred for the benefit of our readers. The Josie Wood Trust fund made two very substantial donations to assist. The result has been that in the Jubilee Year the number of titles available for circulation leapt to 3 352 as at 31st March, 1980.

The number of readers and circulation have again increased. A greater number of readers require reading machines on loan, but, largely owing to generous donations for the purchase of such machines, there has been little difficulty in coping with the demand. The Victoria League, Rondebosch, (18) and the Lady Jackman Trust (5) have been very helpful, as have a number of people who donated players in memory of relatives. All these have been fitted with neat commemorative plaques.

STATISTICS FOR 1979/1980 (to the nearest 10)

Circulation (cassettes sent out)	55 900
Number of readers served	1 210
Number of titles: 31.3.1980	3 350
Stock of recorded cassettes	23 420

Help received by visually handicapped people at local level is much appreciated. Many Public Libraries, local Societies for the Blind and individuals lend a hand, not only in

introducing new readers, but also acting as go-betweens where necessary. Mr G. Levey of Pretoria, Mr T. Cass of East London and Mr C. Oosterberg of Cape Town voluntarily undertake repairs for local readers to shorten the waiting time for readers and relieve some of the pressure on the Technical Department which does everything possible to minimise the period a reader is without his machine.

The VS 2048 U playback machine is coming increasingly into use by people without mains electricity, where they are able to make use of a re-chargeable built-in battery or an ordinary 12-volt car battery. These machines are not yet in plentiful supply and are rather expensive.

BRAILLE AND MOON DEPARTMENT

A thorough review of the braille bookstock brought to light a much larger than expected number of volumes which, through age and usage, were no longer suitable for circulation because the dots had become too flattened. It is particularly unfortunate that the hardest-hit section was the older part of the Afrikaans collection which was brailled before the system of keeping Masters was in operation. This means that these books must be either re-brailled by hand where the braille is still fairly legible or completely transcribed from print. Both processes involve considerable delay.

However, a very satisfactory number and range of new titles was added through purchase from overseas and locally, the efforts of our volunteer transcribers, good production by Braille Services (particularly of Afrikaans and African language books) and gifts, including those from Perkins School for the Blind, Boston. Books from the latter source which are surplus to the Library's requirements are passed on to those schools which have indicated a need for them.

STATISTICS FOR 1979/1980 (to the nearest 10)

CIRCULATION	BRAILLE	MOON	TOTAL
Volumes of books	14 420	600	15 020
Magazines issued	1 910	110	2 020
No. of readers served	600	30	630
TOTAL STOCK 31.3.80			
Volumes	28 680	4 480	33 160
Books (Titles)	7 820	1 260	9 080
ADDITIONS TO STOCK 1.4.79 - 31.3.80			
Volumes	1 080	110	1 190
Books (Titles)	340	40	380

Block loans (i.e. books in bulk) are made to the following institutions: Baragwanath Hospital (Soweto) ; Botswana Resource Centre (Mochudi) ; St Joseph's (Swaziland), St Catherine's and the Maseru Resource Centre, both in Lesotho. The Library continues to serve braille readers in Zimbabwe, South West Africa, Zambia, Malawi and one in Mauritius.

BIBLIOGRAPHIC DEPARTMENT

There was a large increase in the number of books requested for study purposes, both at university and school levels. The actual figures might prove interesting; 52 individuals requested special materials in braille and on tape and 196 of the requests could be satisfied as follows: 121 titles were available from the Library's stocks, 25 titles were ordered and added to stock, and 50 titles were successfully borrowed from overseas libraries (a production cost saving of approx. R5 000). 25 more titles were in stock

but out on loan at the time of the request and 67 further titles were traced but not in the event borrowed by the enquirers. This year actual overseas loans were obtained from the following: U.S.A.: Library of Congress, Recording for the Blind, National Braille Association, Milwaukee Public Library. U.K.: Students Library (Braille), - Students' Tape Library, National Braille Library. Netherlands: Nederlandsche Blindenbibliotheek, Blindenbibliotheek "Le Sage ten Broek". Since the American institutions have very largely adopted the new 15/16 inch per second, 4 track C90 cassette format, the Library purchased 3 of the special players required to lend to students having to borrow books in this format.

New accessions lists were produced for Mark IV Cassettes and for Braille Books in English. The Afrikaans braille accessions list, due at the end of the year, was delayed so that a complete revised catalogue could be produced instead. This work has started with a general stock-taking which resulted in the high number of discards referred to elsewhere since so many were found to be suffering excessive, irreparable wear and tear. These books will, as far as possible, have to be re-ordered or even re-transcribed. A start has been made on the compilation of a list of braille books suitable for juvenile readers up to about 14 years of age.

An experiment has been initiated with the subscription to "Juta's current law cassettes", a monthly publication. It will be possible to assess the results by December 1980 and make a decision accordingly.

BRAILLE TRANSCRIPTION DEPARTMENT

The Library's voluntary transcribers, proof-readers and teachers make it possible for blind readers to enjoy books which are not likely to become available in braille from any other source. Books on South African themes or by South African authors, for instance, are rarely obtainable in braille from our usual sources. Some example of works that have recently been brailled are: "Great House" by Kate Thompson; "Masters of the Castle" by Hymen Picard; "Zulu Dawn" by C. Endfield; "Old fourlegs" by J.L.B. Smith (New transcription); "Willemsdorp" by H. C. Bosman. Many other worthwhile books have been completed or started upon this year. From the first volume transcribed by Miss Edith Wood in 1921-22, the volunteers have consistently endeavoured to produce work of a high standard of accuracy.

Volumes completed 1.4.79 - 31.3.80

(A volume is counted only after receipt of the proof-reader's report)

Ashton, Mrs L.	13	Kirby, Mr N.C.	6
Askham, Mrs N.L.	1	Mc Cullough, Miss M.W.	3
Brandt, Mrs F.	2	Manton, Mrs A.	2
Brien, Mrs N.	4	Meiring, Mrs D.	2
Dent, Mrs S.E.E.	2	Meynell, Mrs J.P.	5
Dory, Sr. Thirza	2	Newby, Miss A.	6
Fish, Mrs B.	5	Paillard, Mrs F.	4
Fisher, Mrs R.	5	Quine, Mrs N.	6
Gee, Mrs R.	5	Rossouw, Mrs J.M.	9
Gernaat, Mrs N.	1	Shires, Mrs I.	6
Holmes, Mrs A.C.	12	Shore, Mrs L.	3
Horwitz, Mrs A.	2	Spitzglass, Mrs B.	3
Jaques, Dr A.C.	5	Webb, Mrs O.	1
Jaques, Mrs J.	9	Williams, Mrs I.	14
Kent, Mrs L.	1	Williamson, Mrs E.	6

Zimbabwe		Mascetti, Mrs R.	7
Barritt, Mrs J.	19	Reid, Mrs J.	4
Jackson, Mrs J.M.	1	Schnabl, Mrs R.	9
Jenkins, Mrs E.	8	Wiles, Mrs R.F.	14
Lawton, Mrs M.W.	7	GRAND TOTAL	214

This brings the total number of volumes transcribed since the beginning of this voluntary work to 3 994 volumes. Successful candidates in the Braille Transcribers' Examination were Mrs R. Mascetti (with distinction) and Mrs E. A. Graham. The Braille Transcriber's Certificate was awarded to: Dr A. C. Jaques, Mrs E. E. Jenkins, Mrs D. Meiring and Mrs J. P. Meynell. The certificate is earned by work of a sufficiently high standard produced after passing the examination.

Mrs Ursula Bruce who has been our main proof-reader for many years, resigned (temporarily, we hope) in order to continue her post-graduate studies. She has made a great contribution towards keeping the standards of transcription high. Our Proof-readers are now Mrs Dent, Mrs Fish, Mrs Jaques, Mrs Manton, Mrs Rossouw and, in Zimbabwe, Mrs Barritt and Mrs Reid. As these ladies also transcribe and teach, their contribution to our blind can only be described as "tremendous". Miss A. Newby, besides transcribing books, has been extremely helpful in doing "odd-jobs" such as minutes, this annual report, etc. We are pleased that Mr Fish is once more in good health and back in the fold.

Publishers and authors, without whose coöperation nothing could be done, have generously given us copyright permission, and many publishers, listed under "Gifts in Kind", have made a considerable financial contribution by donating copies of books for brailleing. The Grahamstown Public and Regional Libraries have kindly arranged long loans of some books required.

THE JOSIE WOOD TRUST FUND

The Trust has grown very satisfactorily since its establishment in 1975 under the careful management of the Trustees: Dr J.M. Hyslop (Chairman); Mr L.B. Green (Vice-Chairman); Prof F.G. Butler and Dr S.G. Shuttleworth. The object of the Trust is to assist the Library in maintaining and expanding its services and its Capital Fund is being built up by bequests and special donations. During the year, the Trust assisted the Library by sponsoring the director's attendance at the Copenhagen Conference and by two very substantial donations towards the purchase of recorded cassettes to expand the range of titles available to visually handicapped readers. During the year the Fund was augmented by donations from Mrs A. Behrman, Messrs Green, Truter and Douglas, Mr and Mrs E.N.W. Tucker and by the bequests listed below.

BEQUESTS

The following bequests are acknowledged with sincere gratitude. Entrusting the funds thus made available by kind and thoughtful people to the Josie Wood Fund, ensures that the people who need the Library's services will continue to benefit for many years.

Mr H.G. Bentley
Mr L.O. Carlsson
Mrs I.W. Carter

Mrs D.F. Jewell
Miss K.L. Luscombe
Mrs E.S.P. Marais

GIFTS IN KIND

The following gifts are gratefully acknowledged:

Portrait of Miss Josie Wood (by the late Mr A.J. Sieverdink): Mrs M. Sieverdink.

Painting by Miss Josie Wood: Mrs J. Laubscher

Steel Shelving: General Motors S.A.

Tape-players : Mrs S. Blore, Huis Esperanza (Strand), Lady Jackman Trust (5), Mrs H. Luscombe, Mrs D. Melvill (in memory of Mr J.J. Melvill), Mr S.E. Willows-Munro, Mrs J.A. Nicholson, Mrs P. Perlstein, Mrs B. Preece, Victoria League in South Africa (Rondebosch Branch) 15 (plus 3 in memory of Mrs Graham Bell).

Tape recorders: Mr M.L. Clarke.

Headphones : Mr E.J. Alexander, Mr P. Brevis, Mr D.E. Burrows, Mrs S.G. Toens.

Tape-cassettes : Mr J. le Roux, the Martha Harty Trust.

Perkins brailers : Mrs R. Gee, Mrs R. Schnabl.

Copies of print books for brailleing : Better Books, the Bookworm, T.V. Bulpin, A.D. Donker, Educum, Human and Rousseau, Lay Publications, Lovedale Press, John Malherbe, N.G. Kerk-uitgewers, Olympos Publishers, Perskor Publications, D. Philip. Shuter and Shooter, Tafelberg, Van Schaik, Via Afrika, Wayland.

Print reference books : Library of Congress, Rhodes University Library.

Braille books and magazines :

Australia : Braille and Talking Book Library of Victoria, Queensland Braille Writing Association.

Canada : Canadian National Institute for the Blind.

Republic of South Africa: Mr P. Brevis, Mrs S.P. Botha, Mrs U. Bruce, Mr P.W. Buys, Mr D. Duthie, Mr J. Ellis, Mr N. Felgate, Miss King, Mrs D. Marais, Miss P. Morgan, Mr W. Rowland, Mr R.A. Stubbs, Miss I. van Dorsten, Mr F.K. Wannenbourg, estate of the late H. du Toit, Braille Services, S.A. Blind Workers' Organisation, S.A. National Council for the Blind, School for the Blind, Worcester, Union of Jewish Women.

Transkei: Miss G. Mkungwana.

United Kingdom: Miss A. Cunningham, Miss H. Osler, the Church of Scotland, the Royal National Institute for the Blind (braille and moon), Torch Blind Fund Trust.

United States of America: Christian Record Braille Foundation, John Milton Society for the Blind, Lutheran Braille Workers, Lutheran Library for the Blind, Lutheran Messenger for the Blind, Matilda Ziegler Publishing Company for the Blind, National Braille Press, Perkins School for the Blind, Reader's Digest Fund, Theosophical Book Association, UNESCO.

S.A. BIBLIOTHEEK VIR BLINDES



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SUBSCRIPTIONS AND DONATIONS / SUBSKRIPSIES EN SKENKINGS

1979 / 1980

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(Gestig - 1919)

Die Nasionale Biblioteek van Geëmbosseerde
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JAARVERSLAG

1 April 1979 - 31 Maart 1980

(Ook verkrygbaar in braille)

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6140

(W.O. 126)

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INLEIDING

Vandag word dit as vanselfsprekend aanvaar dat gesigsgestremde burgers dieselfde aanspraak het op biblioteekdienste as enige ander deel van die gemeenskap. In Grahamstad, in 1919, het mej. Josie Wood so 'n diens begin vanuit haar eie tuiste met 100 braille boekdele en tussen 20 en 30 lesers. Op die fondament van haar toegewyde dienste aan blindes vir meer as 40 jaar, het die Suid-Afrikaanse Biblioteek vir Blindes ontwikkel tot 'n inrigting wat tans erken is as een van Suid-Afrika se drie nasionale biblioteke.

Die gratis diens bereik lesers van alle bevolkingsgroepe dwarsdeur die Republiek per pos of deur bemiddeling van hulle plaaslike openbare biblioteke, en biblioteke en individue in die buurstate word gehelp. Dit is die nasionale bibliografiese en tussenbiblioteeklenings-sentrum van leesstof vir gesigsgestremdes en dikwels word die skakel met oorsese organisasies vir blindes gebruik om lesers te help wat essensiële studiemateriaal benodig.

Die titels van die boeke op die rakke kan gevind word in enige goeie biblioteek se versameling, maar die boeke self is óf geëmbosseerd vir vingerlees óf op band ingeklank vir luister-lees. Weens hierdie gespesialiseerde media, is die biblioteek se uitgawes aansienlik hoër as die van soortgelyke biblioteke vir siendes.

Die Departement van Nasionale Opvoeding voorsien die Suid-Afrikaanse Biblioteek vir Blindes van 'n toelaag om basiese administratiewe onkoste te dek, maar die biblioteek steun steeds op die milde bydraes van vriende, op bemakings, op skenkings van plaaslike owerhede en instansies, en op die welwillendheid van vrywillige diensorganisasies, om 'n bevredigende uitbouing van die boeke-voorraad en ander dienste te handhaaf.

Die Raad en Personeel glo dat al ons kragte ingespan moet word om aan gesigsgestremde mense 'n doeltreffende professionele biblioteekdiens te verskaf wat, sover omstandighede dit toelaat, sal gelykstaan aan die diens wat vir siendes verskaf word deur die openbare biblioteke.

BROKKIES UIT ONS VRIENDE SE BRIEWE :

"Sonder die hulp van die Biblioteek se personeel sou ons studente verlore wees". (Pretoria)

"Ek wil 'n handdruk van dankbaarheid en waardering aan u reik. Sonder u hulp sou ek sekerlik nie sukses behaal het nie. Ek wens u alle geluk toe". (Sovenga)

"Dankie dat u my weer gemotiveer het - ek waardeer dit. (Empangeni)

"Ek waardeer geweldig baie die leengebruik van hierdie items, en die vriendelike hulpvaardigheid van die personeel wat bygedra het om die dae te verlig totdat my oog-katarak operasies voltooi is". (Grahamstad)

"Ek is trots op ons Biblioteek, veral die flinke diens en die wye verskeidenheid van boeke". (Pretoria)

"Toe die Biblioteek vir Blindes aan ons genoem is en die plaaslike Biblioteekaris so goed was om vir haar 'n bandspeler tesame met 'n bandboek te laat kry, het my Moeder oornag 'n nuwe uitkyk op die lewe verkry". (Pietersburg)

"U diens het geluk en hulp gebring aan iemand wat verpletterd was". (Oos-Londen)

"Wanneer ek sien hoeveel lewensplezier u boeke aan my man verskaf, dan besef ek hoe belangrik u Biblioteek is vir ontelbare ander mense". (Stellenbosch)

"Alhoewel ek 104 jaar oud is, put ek nog altyd die grootste genot uit die boeke wat u aan my stuur". (Plumstead)

IN MEMORIAM

MNR. E. B. CONWAY

Mnr. E.B. Conway is in 1960 deur Mej. Josie Wood self aangestel in die Raad van die Biblioteek, en hy het as lid aangebly toe die Biblioteek in 1968 in Verklaarde Inrigting van die Departement van Nasionale Opvoeding geword het. Hy was Visie-Voorsitter vanaf 1962 tot sy heengaan in Maart 1980.

Mnr. Conway het baie belanggestel in die werk en was baie selde afwesig van 'n Raadsvergadering. Hy het gereeld die Biblioteek besoek en was baie gewillig om te help met advies en met roetine take soos die Raad van Voorraad se verslae.

Hy was 'n bedrewe sakeman en voor sy koms na Grahamstad was hy tweekeer burge-meester van Graaff-Reinet, waar hy ook opspraak gewek het met die lees wat hy in sy tuin aangehou het! Die werk van die Biblioteek is bevorder en verryk deur sy helder denke, sy vermoë om vorentoe te beplan en sy innige belangstelling in diegene wat hulp nodig gehad het.

PROFESSOR J. J. GERBER

Prof. J.J. Gerber, bekend aan al sy vriende as Koos, is in Augustus 1979 na 'n kort siekbed in 'n hospitaal in Kaapstad oorlede.

Hy het in 1976 afgetree uit die diens van Rhodes Universiteit na 'n lang verbintenis, eers as student in die Fakulteit opvoedkunde, toe as lektor en uiteindelik as professor en as huisvader van Founder's Hall. Hy was ook voorsitter van die Raad van Fort Hare Universiteit.

Met 'n lewenslange belangstelling in die welsyn en opvoeding van blindes, het prof. Gerber in 1968 diens aanvaar as lid van die Biblioteek se raad en gedien tot sy afsterwe.

Koos Gerber was 'n kleurvolle persoonlikheid. Hy was groot van gestalte en groot van gees. Dit was 'n grootsheid wat openbaar is in sy verdraagsaamheid van ander mense se tradisies, gedrag en taal. Hy kon verskil sonder bitsigheid of vyandigheid.

Hy was uiters lojaal teenoor die inrigtings wat hy gedien het, en ook aan sy vriende, Afrikaans - en Engelssprekend, Wit of Swart. Hy was goedhartig en vele mense van alle stande het rede tot dankbaarheid gehad vir sy persoonlike hulp. Hy was 'n goeie vriend van die Biblioteek en ons sal hom mis.

T.N.

DR. WALTER COHEN

Met dr. Cohen se heengaan in Februarie 1980, het die Biblioteek nie net 'n ywerige leser maar ook 'n goeie vriend verloor. Hy was internasionaal bekend as lid van die Wêreldraad vir die Welsyn van Blindes en Voorsitter van die Wêreldraad in Braille. Hy het 'n geweldige bydrae gelewer tot die ontwerp van braillestelsels vir die Swart blindes van Suid-Afrika en was redakteur van twee tydskrifte vir hulle, "Sedibeng" en "Ilanga Lethu".

Hy was lid van die Komitee van Ondersoek wat daartoe gelei het dat die Biblioteek 'n Verklaarde Inrigting geword het. As voorsitter van die S.A. Nasionale Raad vir Blindes het hy in 1962 die eerste Robert Bowen-medalje aan mej. Josie Wood oorhandig as erkenning van haar werk in die vestiging en uitbouing van die Biblioteek. Hy het ook in 1964 die Van Schalkwyk-vleuel ge-open.

Sy denke was besonder helder, hy was 'n bekwame spreker en sy belangstellings en bedrywighede talloos. Hy het nooit toegelaat dat sy gestremdheid hom verhinder in dit wat hy wou doen nie, en het telkemale gesê dat blindheid nie as 'n tragedie beskou moet word nie, maar eintlik net 'n ergenis. Vir talle mense dwarsdeur Suid-Afrika is sy heergaan 'n groot verlies.

JAARVERSLAG

1 April 1979 - 31 Maart 1980

ALGEMEEN

Die Diamant-Jubileumjaar was gebeurtenisvol, maar sommige van die gebeurtenisse was hoegenaamd nie aangenaam nie. Ons is baie ontstel deur die heengaan van prof. J.J. Gerber, 'n raadslid vanaf 1968 en mnr. E.B. Conway wat in die Raad gedien het sedert 1960 en Visie-Voorsitter was sedert 1962. Dr. F.G. van der Riet, wat in die Raad gedien het sedert 1951, het besluit om af te tree en het ook uit die Raad bedank. Die Biblioteek het deur die jare baie voordeel getrek uit die getroue ondersteuning en waardevolle dienste van hierdie vriende en hul afwesigheid laat werklik 'n leemte. Ten tye van hierdie verslag is die beslissing van die Minister oor die her-samestelling van die Raad nog nie gefinaliseer nie.

Die Biblioteek se viering van sy 60 jaar van diens aan blindes is goed ondersteun. Die Setlaars-museum in Grahamstad het 'n interessante en kunstige uitstalling oor die Biblioteek se werksaamhede en geskiedenis gemonteer gedurende die jaarlikse Kunsfees sodat baie besoekers aan Grahamstad vir die geleentheid, in staat gestel is om dit te besigtig. Veertig Openbare Biblioteke in al die Provinsies het uitstallings gehou om die biblioteekdienste aan blindes bekend te stel. Hiervoor het hulle gebruik gemaak van plakkaat, boeke in braille- en moonskrif, bandspelers en kassette wat deur die Biblioteek geleen is. Die biblioteke het getuig van wye belangstelling by die publiek, veral omdat sovele nog nooit geleentheid gehad het om werklik braille- en moonboeke en die spesialeandleesstelsel vir gebruik deur gestremdes, te sien te kry nie. Die uitstallings is baie kunstig gedoen soos bewys deur talle foto's wat aan die Biblioteek gestuur is. As dit moet, sou ons graag Uvongo en Welkom uitsonder vir "eervolle vermelding" - daar is ongelukkig net ruimte om die foto van laasgenoemde te plaas.

Die Diamant-Jubileumvergadering is in St. George's Saal gehou onder voorsitterskap van Sy Ed. Regter Kannemeyer, voorsitter van die Biblioteekraad. Die gasspreker was Sy Ed. dr. P.G.J. Koornhof, Minister van Samewerking en Ontwikkeling, voorheen Minister van Nasionale Opvoeding. Ander ere-gaste was mnr. en mev. G. Schermbrücker van Kaapstad. Mnr. Schermbrücker is die leser wat die Biblioteekdienste die langste gebruik - sy vader het hom as seuntjie in 1919 by mej. Josie Wood ingeskryf. Nadat die Direkteur 'n kort verslag oor die huidige stand van die Biblioteek gelewer het, het dr. Koornhof 'n deeglik-voorbereide toespraak gelewer oor mej. Josie Wood se pionierswerk met die verskaffing van biblioteekdienste aan blindes in Suid-Afrika. Hy het voortgegaan met 'n beskrywing van die ontwikkeling van hierdie dienste tot op hede, met verwysings na die toestande in die verlede. Hy het afgesluit met 'n pleidooi vir openbare ondersteuning vir die vele fasette van hierdie werk. Mnr. Schermbrücker het die spreker bedank en daarna het mej. Spurling namens die Biblioteek aan dr. Koornhof 'n keramiek vrugtebak wat spesiaal vir die geleentheid deur mnr. Hamburger vervaardig is, oorhandig. Voor die afsluiting het dr. J.M. Hyslop, voorsitter van die Josie Wood-trustfonds, namens die lede en vriende van die Biblioteek hulde gebring aan Sy Ed. Regter Kannemeyer vir sy 30 jaar van diens as lid van die Biblioteekraad, waarvan hy vir 18 jaar reeds voorsitter is. Na die vergadering het die Burgemeester en Burgemeestersvrou, Rld. en mev. Currie, die eregaste, lede van die Raad en die personeel, die Trustees van die Josie Wood-Trustfonds en vriende van die Biblioteek, waarvan party ver gereis het om teenwoordig te wees, onthaal by 'n burgelike skemeronthaal in die Stadsaal. Al die verrigtinge is gekenmerk deur 'n atmosfeer van egte vriendelikheid wat lank deur al die teenwoordiges onthou sal word.

Na etlike jare van onderhandeling, is die kooptransaksie van die eindom wat grens aan die Biblioteek in Highstraat, voorheen mnr. Rodgersen se winkel, op 1 Oktober 1979

DIE DIAMANT JUBILEUMVERGADERING



(L na R) Mej. E.M. Spurling (Bibliotekaresse), dr. P.G.J. Koornhof (Minister van Samewerking en Ontwikkeling), regter Kannemeyer (Voorsitter), mnr. G. Schembrücker (Voorsitter van die Lighthouse Klub), mnr. P.J.A. de Villiers (Direkteur).

finaal afgehandel. Sekere herstelwerk en aanpassings moet gedoen word voordat die gebou geskik sal wees vir die Biblioteek se gebruik en D.O.W. het onderneem om die planne uit te voer sodra fondse vir die doel beskikbaar is. Aangesien die tekort aan ruimte in die bestaande gebou nou kritiek is, kan daar net gehoop word dat dit nie te kank sal duur voordat die addisionele ruimte beset kan word nie.

'n Kykie na die statistieke wat later in die verslag verskyn, wys dat die Biblioteek gesond is. Twee ontwikkelinge, waarvan besonderhede onder die betrokke afdelings verskyn, moet hier genoem word. Die eerste is die besondere hoë getal nuwe titels wat op band beskikbaar geword het om die totale getal titels tot op meer as 3 350 te staan te bring, insluitend die "spesiale" een-kopie boeke vir studente wat tans ongeveer 200 tel. Die tweede is die betekenisvolle aanwas in die aantal studente en gespesialiseerde lesers wat gehelp is uit die Biblioteek se eie voorrade en deur Inter-Biblioteek lenings.

Omdat dit belangrik ge-ag is dat die Biblioteek sy internasionale kontakte met die Wêreldraad vir die Welsyn van Blindes en die Internasionale Federasie van Biblioteekinrigtings (IFLA) moet behou, het die trustees van die Josie Wood-Trustfonds onderneem om die onkoste te dra van die Direkteur se besoek aan die Kongres in Kopenhagen. Die Werksgroep vir Biblioteke vir Blindes van IFLA, in 1977 in Brussel gestig, het soveel gegroei in grootte en bedrywighede dat dit verhef is tot die status van 'n Tafelronde. Interessante en opbouende referate is gelewer en breedvoerige besprekings is gevoer oor handelswyse om die versperrings in die weg van vryelike internasionale uitruilings van leesstof vir blindes uit die weg te probeer ruim. Aandag is gegee aan sekere outeursregulasies, posdiensbeperkings, onvolledige bibliografiese gegewens, onreëlmatige katalogisering en onvoldoende kommunikasie. Die Direkteur het 'n referaat wat in samewerking met mnr. D. Shumaker van die "Library of Congress" voorberei is, gelees oor „Standaarde vir Internasionale Uitruiling van Bibliografiese Inligting". 'n Vyf jaar projek vir die uitgee van 'n "Biografiese Woordeboek van Blinde mense wat betekenisvolle bydrae gelewer het aan die Kunste en Wetenskap", is geloods. 'n Goedgeorganiseerde uitstalling het belangstellendes in staat gestel om die nuutste papierlose brailleleesmasjiene, braille komperverbindinge, pratende rekenaars, ens. nie alleen te sien nie maar ook te hanteer en op die proef te stel. Ongelukkig was daar nie 'n Kurzweil drukskrif-tot-spraak leser beskikbaar nie. Besoeke is gebring aan verskeie Deense inrigtings vir blindes. In Londen, op reis tuis, het die Direkteur geleentheid gehad om die Royal National Institute for the Blind se nuwe bandopname en komper-braille installasies, die Students' Library en die British Talking Book Services te besoek. Hy het ook die voorreg geniet om mnr. Eric Boulter, Direkteur-Generaal van die R.N.I.B. te ontmoet.

Stygende onkoste is 'n voortdurende bron van kommer. Die Departement van Nasionale Opvoeding het, deur sy subsidie aansienlik te verhoog, die verhoogde salarisuitgawe gedek, maar ander items soos bandspelers, brailleboeke, skryfbehoeftes van allerlei soorte, elektriese krag, ens. het ontstellend duurder geword. Dit is meer as ooit te vore waar dat die vrywillige subskripsies en bydraes ontvang van individue, diensorganisasies, plaaslike owerhede en sake-ondernemings noodsaaklik is om die Biblioteek se diens te op 'n hoë peil te handhaaf. Waardevolle bydraes is ontvang van straatkollektes, kollektebussies in verskeie biblioteke en goedgesindes wat donasies stuur i.p.v. kranse vir vriende wat heengegaan het.

Die diens wat deur hierdie organisasie gelewer word is nie 'n meganiese omset nie, maar besondere, persoonlike diens aan individue. Daarom, benewens finansiële hulp, word ook die belangstelling, guns en samewerking van baie mense benodig. Die hoflikheid en hulpvaardigheid van die beamptes van die Departement van Nasionale Opvoeding en van die Posdiens word hoog op prys gestel. Baie hulp met die inlywing van nuwe lesers en die hantering van plaaslike probleme word ontvang van Openbare Biblioteke, die S.A. Nasionale Raad vir Blindes, baie geaffilieerde verenigings, St. Dun-

BY DIE DIAMANT JUBILEUMVERGADERING



(L na R) Mnr. R.J. de V. Olckers, L.V., mev. Olckers, dr. P.G.J. Koornhof, mnr. P.J.A. de Villiers.



(L na R) Mej. B. Bülbring, mnr. G. Schermbrücker, mej. H. Smith, mev. Schermbrücker

stan's, die Voorsitter en Sekretaresse van die Kaapstadse Ligtoringklub vir Blindes, verskeie Verenigings vir Blindes en mnr. en mev. C. Porter van Pietermaritzburg. Die Rhodes Universiteitsbiblioteek en die Grahamstadse Openbare en Streeksbiblioteke is almal besonder hulpvaardig. Dankbare erkenning word gedoen aan Standard Bank, Barclay's Bank, Grocott's, die Skool vir Blindes, Worcester, Brailledienste, Bandhulp vir Blindes, British Talking Book Services, die Royal National Institute for the Blind, die Nasionale Biblioteekdiens aan Blindes van die Library of Congress, Recording for the Blind, National Braille Association. Milwaukee Openbare Biblioteek, Nederlandse Blindenbiblioteek, Blindenbiblioteek "Le Sage ten Broek" en die Perkins Skool vir Blindes, Boston.

PERSONEELNUUS

Mev. L.P. Wilmot, wat baie goed bekend was aan ons Vrywillige Transkribeerders aangesien hierdie diens een van haar verantwoordelikhede was, het in September bedank om na Johannesburg toe "emigreer". Mej. Spurling het in die bresse getree tot mej. C. de Klerk in Desember diens aanvaar het. Mej. C. Boardman is in Julie getroud. Ons is bly dat sy aangebly het onder haar nuwe titel van mev. Van der Merwe. Mnr. Q.J. Otto het in Januarie by die personeel aangesluit as bibliotekaris in die Bibliografiese Afdeling.

BANDAFDELING

Eerstens, die onwelkome nuus. Vir amper tien jaar is die koste van die leesmasjiene en oorfone konstant gehou, grotendeels weens die dalende waarde van die pond op die geldmark. Die styging van die pond se waarde, tesame met die nuwe prysstygings en verhoogde vervoerkoste, het die prys van die leesmasjiene vermeerder tot R90 en die van 'n stel oorfone tot R7,50.

Nou die goeie nuus. British Talking Book Services het, in samewerking met Clarke and Smith International, 'n uitgebreide skema onderneem om hul kasetboek-voorraad te vernu. Dit het beteken dat daar op groot skaal her-kopieëring vanaf oorspronklike meesterbande gedoen moes word en die Biblioteek is genooi om deel te neem hieraan tot die mate wat hyself wenslik ge-ag het. Dus kon die Biblioteek verslete bandboeke, waarvan baie alreeds meer as twaalf jaar in gebruik is, baie vinniger en goedkoper vervang as wat intern moontlik was. Die tyd wat sodoende bespaar is kon gebruik word om nuwe titels vanaf die rolbande wat geleen is van Worcester Skool vir Blindes en Bandhulp vir Blindes, te kopieër. Benewens dit, het daar 'n groot aantal nuwe titels beskikbaar geword vir aankope. Aangesien so 'n geleentheid hom waarskynlik nie in die nabye toekoms sal voordoen nie, is besluit om die aansienlik vergrote uitgawe vanjaar aan te gaan tot voordeel van ons lesers. Die Josie Wood-Trustfonds het twee lywige skenkings gedoen om te help. Die gevolg was dat in ons Jubileumjaar die aantal titels beskikbaar vir sirkulasie gestyg het tot 3 352, soos op 31 Maart 1980.

Die getal lesers en die sirkulasie het weereens gestyg. 'n Groter aantal lesers benodig leesmasjiene vir bruikleen, maar danksy die donasies vir die aankoop van sulke masjiene, is daar min probleme ondervind om hierdie behoefte te bevredig. Die Victoria League, Rondebosch (18) en die Lady Jackman-Trust (5) het baie gehelp, asook 'n aantal vriende wat leesmasjiene geskenk het ter gedagtenis aan familieleden. Al hierdie masjiene is toegerus met netjiese gedenkplaatjies.

Statistiek vir 1979/80 (tot die naaste 10)

Sirkulasie (kassette uitgestuur)	55 900
Lesers bedien	1 210
Boektitels op 31.3.80	3 350
Voorraad ingelese kassette	23 420

Hulp wat plaaslik aan gesigsgestremdes gelewer word, word baie hoog waardeer. Baie Openbare Biblioteke, plaaslike Verenigings vir Blindes en individue sit hand by, nie net met die inlywing van nuwe lesers nie, maar ook as tussengangers waar dit nodig is. Mnr. G. Levey van Pretoria, mnr. T. Cass van Oos-Londen en mnr. C. Oosterberg van Kaapstad onderneem vrywillig om reparasies vir plaaslike lesers te doen sodat die wagtyd vir lesers verminder word en terselfdertyd die druk verlig word op die Tegniese Afdeling, wat alles moontlik doen om die tyd wat 'n leser sonder leesmasjien sit, te verminder.

Die VS 2048U leesmasjien word in toenemende mate gebruik deur mense sonder gereelde hooflyn elektriese toevoer, waar hulle gebruik maak van 'n herlaaibare ingeboude battery of 'n gewone 12-volt motorbattery. Hierdie masjien is nog nie volop nie en is ietwat duur.

BRAILLE-EN MOONAFDELING

Die deeglike nagaan van die braille boeke-voorraad het aan die lig gebring dat daar 'n onverwagte hoë getal boekdele was wat nie langer geskik was vir sirkulasie nie omdat, deur ouderdom en gebruik, die braillekolle onduidelik geraak het. Dit is besonder ongelukkig dat die versameling van ouer Afrikaanse boeke die swaarste getref is omdat hierdie boeke brailleer is voordat die stelsel om meesterkopieë te bewaar in werking getree het. Dit beteken dat, waar die braille tog tot 'n mate leesbaar is, die boeke herbrailleer moet word of anders weer opnuut vanaf die drukskrif transkribeer moet word. Albei prosesse is baie tydrowend.

Nietemin kon 'n baie bevredigende getal en verskeidenheid nuwe boektitels aangeskaf word deur aankope vanaf oorsee of plaaslik, deur die werk van ons vrywillige transkribeerders, 'n goeie produksie deur Brailledienste (veral van boeke in Afrikaans en Swart-tale) en geskenke, insluitende die van die Perkins Skool vir Blindes, Boston. Boeke ontvang van laasgenoemde wat nie deur die Biblioteek benodig word nie, is aangestuur aan skole wat versoeke gerig het vir sulke boeke.

Statistiek vir 1979/80 (tot die naaste 10)

SIRKULASIE	BRAILLE	MOON	TOTAAL
Boekdele	14 420	600	15 020
Tydskrifte uitgereik	1 910	110	2 020
Lesers bedien	600	30	630
TOTALE BOEKEVOORRAAD 31.3.80			
Boekdele	28 680	4 480	33 160
Boeke (Titels)	7 820	1 260	9 080
BYVOEGINGS TOT VOORRAAD 1.4.79 - 31.3.80			
Boekdele	1 080	110	1 190
Boeke (Titels)	340	40	380

Bloklennings word gedoen aan die volgende inrigtings:

Baragwanath Hospitaal (Soweto); Mochudi Middelesentrum (Botswana); St. Joseph's (Swaziland); St. Catherine's en die Maseru Middelesentrum (albei in Lesotho). Die Biblioteek gaan voort om lesers te bedien in Zimbabwe, Suid-Wes Afrika, Zambië, Malawi en een in Mauritius.

BIBLIOGRAFIESE AFDELING

Daar was 'n aansienlike aanwas in die aantal boeke wat aangevra is vir studie-doeleindes, beide op universiteits- en skoolvlak. Die werklike syfers sal miskien interessant gevind word: 52 persone het spesiale leesstof in braille en op band versoek, en aan 196 van die versoeke kon as volg voldoen word: 121 titels was beskikbaar in die Biblioteek se voorraad, 25 titels is bestel en bygevoeg tot die voorraad en suksesvolle lenings is vanaf oor-

see gedoen van 50 titels ('n produksiekoste besparing van ongeveer R5 000). 'n Verdere 25 titels was in voorraad maar tydelik onbeskikbaar omdat ander lesers dit reeds in gebruik gehad het; 67 titels is opgespoor maar tog nie deur die navraers werklik geleen nie. Vanjaar is oorsese lenings verkry vanaf: Verenigde State: Library of Congress, Recording for the Blind, National Braille Association. Verenigde Koninkryk: Students' Library (Braille), Student Tape Library, National Braille Library. Nederland: Nederlandsche Blindenbibliotheek, Blindenbibliotheek "Le Sage ten Broek". Aangesien die Amerikaanse inrigtings op groot skaal die nuwe 15/16 duim-per-sekonde, 4-baan C90 kasetformaat in gebruik geneem het, het die Biblioteek drie van die spesiale bandspelers wat hiervoor benodig word, aangekoop om uit te leen aan studente wat boeke in hierdie formaat benodig.

Nuwe aanwinstlyste vir Merk IV-kassette en brailleboeke in Engels is geproduseer. Die aanwinstlyst vir brailleboeke in Afrikaans wat vir die einde van die jaar beplan was, is afgestel sodat 'n volledige hersiene katalogus uitgegee kon word. Hierdie projek moes begin met 'n deeglike voorraad-opname wat gelei het tot die taamlike groot getal afskrywings waarna elders verwys word, omdat so baie boekdele gevind is wat onherstelbaar verslete is. 'n Begin is gemaak met die samestelling van 'n lys brailleboeke wat geskik is vir jeugdige lesers tot ouderdom ongeveer 14 jaar.

'n Eksperiment word uitgevoer met 'n subskripsie aan "Juta's current law cassettes", 'n maandelikse publikasie. Teen Desember 1980 sal dit moontlik wees om 'n waarde-bepaling te doen.

BRAILLE TRANSKRIPSIE AFDELING

Die Biblioteek se vrywillige transkribeerders, proeflesers en onderwyseresse maak dit moontlik vir mense om boeke te geniet wat vanaf geen ander bron in braille beskikbaar is nie. Boeke met Suid-Afrikaanse temas of deur Suid-Afrikaanse skrywers is baie selde beskikbaar van ander bronne. 'n Paar voorbeelde van boeke onlangs geproduseer is: "Great House" van Kate Thompson, "Master of the Castle" van Hymen Picard, "Zulu Dawn" van C. Endfield, "Old Four-legs" van J.L.B. Smith (nuwe transkripsie), "Willemsdorp" van H.C. Bosman. Baie ander goeie boeke is vanjaar óf voltooi óf begin. Vanaf die eerste boekdeel wat mej. Edith Wood in 1921-22 transkribeer het, het die vrywilligers konsekwent hul kragte ingespan om werk van 'n hoë gehalte van akkuraatheid te lewer.

Boekdele voltooi 1/4/79 - 31/3/80

(’n Boekdeel word slegs getel nadat die proefleser se verslag ontvang is).

Ashton, mev. L.	13	Kirby, mnr. N.C.	6
Askham, mev. N.L.	1	McCullough, mej. M.W.	3
Brandt, mev. F.	2	Manton, mev. A.	2
Brien, mev. N.	4	Meiring, mev. D.	2
Dent, mev. S.E.E.	2	Meynell, mev. J.P.	5
Dory, Sr. Thirza	2	Newby, mej. A.	6
Fish, mev. B.	5	Paillard, mev. F.	4
Fisher, mev. R.	5	Quine, mev. N.	6
Gee, mev. R.	5	Rossouw, mev. J.M.	9
Gernaat, mev. N.	1	Shires, mev. I.	6
Holmes, mev. A.C.	12	Shore, mev. L.	3
Horwitz, mev. A.	2	Spitzglass, mev. B.	3
Jaques, dr. A.C.	5	Webb, mev. O.	1
Jaques, mev. J.	9	Williams, mev. I.	14
Kent, mev. L.	1	Williamson, mev. E.	6

ZIMBABWE		Mascetti, mev. R.	7
Barritt, mev. J.	19	Reid, mev. J.	4
Jackson, mev. J.M.	1	Schnabl, mev. R.	9
Jenkins, mev. E.	8	Wiles, mev. R.F.	14
Lawton, mev. M.W.	7	TOTAAL	214

Dit bring die totale getal boekdele wat sedert die begin van die vrywillige diens getranskribeer is, op 3 994 te staan.

Suksesvolle kandidate in die Transkribeerders-eksamen was mev. R. Mascetti (met onderskeiding) en mev. E.A. Graham. Die Braille Transkribeerdersertifikaat is toegeken aan: dr. A.C. Jaques, mev. E.Jenkins, mev. D.P. Meiring en mev. J.P. Meynell. Hierdie sertifikaat word verdien deur die lewering van werk van hoë gehalte nadat die eksamen suksesvol afgelê is.

Mev. Ursula Bruce, ons hoofproefleser vir baie jare, het bedank (tydelik, hoop ons) sodat sy haar na-graadse studies kan voltooi. Sy het baie daartoe bygedra dat hoë standdaarde gehandhaaf word. Tans is ons proeflesers mevv. Dent, Fish, Jaques, Manton, Rossouw en, in Zimbabwe, mevv. Barritt en Reid. Aangesien hierdie dames ook transkribeer en as instruktors optree, kan hul bydrae tot die welsyn van ons blinde lesers slegs beskryf word as "geweldig". Mej. A. Newby is, benewens die transkribering van boeke, ook besonder behulpsaam met "los-werke" soos notule, jaarverslag, ens. Ons is bly dat mnr. Fish se gesondheid so verbeter het dat hy nou weer terug in diens is.

Uitgewers en outeurs, wie se samewerking onontbeerlik is, het baie geredelik outeurs-reg-verlof verleen, en baie uitgewers, wie se name onder "Geskenke" verskyn, het 'n lywige finansiële bydrae gelever deur eksemplare van boeke vir brailering te skenk. Die Grahamstadse Openbare en Streeksbiblioteke het goedgegunstiglik verlengde lenings gereël vir benodigde boeke.

DIE JOSIE WOOD-TRUSTFONDS

Die Trust het, sedert sy stigting in 1975, baie bevredigend aangegroei onder die versigtige bestuur van die Trustees: Dr. J.M. Hyslop (Voorsitter); mnr. L.B. Green (Visie-Voorsitter); prof. F.G. Butler en dr. S.G. Shuttleworth. Die doel van die Trust is om die Biblioteek te help met die instandhouding en uitbouing van sy dienste, en die Kapitaal-fonds word opgebou deur bemakings en spesiale skenkings. Gedurende die jaar het die Trust die Biblioteek gehelp deur die onkoste van die Direkteur se bywoning van die Kopenhagen Konferensie te dra, en twee lywige bydraes is aan die Biblioteek betaal om nuwe ingesele kassette aan te koop om die verskeidenheid van titels beskikbaar aan gesigsgestremdes uit te brei. Gedurende die jaar is die Fonds versterk deur skenkings van mev. A. Behrman, mnr. Green, Truter en Douglas, mnr. en mev. E.N.W. Tucker en die bemakings hieronder genoem.

BEMAKINGS

Die volgende bemakings word met egte dankbaarheid erken. Deurdat hierdie fondse, wat bewillig is deur bedagsame mense, aan die Josie Wood-Trustfonds toevertrou word, word verseker dat die mense wat die Biblioteek se dienste benodig, vir baie jare daarby sal baat.

Mnr. H. G. Bentley

Mev. D. F. Jewell

Mnr. L. O. Carlsson

Mej. K. L. Luscombe

Mev. I. W. Carter

Mev. E. S. P. Marais.

GESKENKE

Die volgende geskenke is met dankbaarheid ontvang:

Portret van mej. Josie Wood(deur wyle mnr. A.J. Sieverdink): Mev. M. Sieverdink.

Skildery deur mej. Josie Wood: Mev. J. Laubscher.

Staalrakke: General Motors S.A.

Leesmasjiene: Mev. S. Blore, Huis Esperanza (Strand), Lady Jackman Trust (5), mev. H. Luscombe, mev. D. Melvill (ter gedagtenis aan mnr. J.J. Melvill), mnr. S.E. Willows-Munro, mev. J.A. Nicholson, mev. P. Perlstein, mev. B. Preece, Victoria League in Suid Afrika (Rondebosch Tak) 15 (plus 3 ter gedagtenis aan mev. Graham Bell).

Bandopnemers: Mnr. M. L. Clarke.

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